

**Amendments to the Claims:**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) An image forming apparatus having a power save mode and a normal mode, the image forming apparatus comprising:

an image forming portion that outputs an image corresponding to data received from an external device being located outside of the image forming apparatus;

a controller that controls the image forming portion to output the received data after a period of transition from the power save mode to the normal mode, the controller including a processor, the processor being in an off-state in the power save mode and being in an on-state in the normal mode to control the image forming portion; and

a communication interface that receives the data from the external device and that controls a speed for receiving the data during the period of transition,

wherein, in the power save mode, the processor is in the off state and the communication interface is ~~active~~, and active,

the communication interface receives the data and controls the speed for receiving the data during the period of ~~transition~~, transition, and a period when the processor is in the off-state,

the controller further, before going into an off-state, sets information in the communication interface for controlling the speed for receiving the data, and

the communication interface further controls the speed for receiving the data based on the information set by the controller.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 16,

wherein the communication interface further controls the speed for receiving the data based on a predictive time length of the period set in the communication interface.

19. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising a storing portion that stores the received data, wherein the communication interface further controls the speed for receiving the data based on a residual capacity of the storing portion.

20. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the communication interface further controls the speed for receiving the data based on information indicating a maximum data payload to be received from the external device, the information being set in the communication interface.

21. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the communication interface further controls the speed for receiving the data based on information indicating a reply rate of ACK response and NAK response to the external device, the information being set in the communication interface.

22. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 16, wherein:

the image forming apparatus is coupled to the external device via a serial bus;

and

the communication interface further decides whether or not the data including a packet is directed to the image forming apparatus, by referring an address area in the packet, and responds to the data being addressed to the image forming apparatus when the information is transmitted from the external device via serial communication.

23. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 16, wherein:

the image forming apparatus is coupled to the external device via a serial bus;  
and

the communication interface further decides a mode shift by detecting change of an input control signal of a parallel interface, the mode shift including a shift from or to the normal mode.

24. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 16, wherein:

the image forming apparatus is coupled to the external device via a serial bus;  
and

the communication interface further decides the speed for receiving the data based on a setting of a data payload in a packet in receiving serial data from the external device.

25. (Previously Presented) The image forming apparatus according to claim 16, wherein:

the image forming apparatus is coupled to the external device via a serial bus;  
and

the communication interface further decides the speed for receiving the data based on a rate of (1) notices informing that reception is normally completed, and (2) notices informing that reception is not normally completed, in replying to the data received from the external device.

26 (New) The image forming apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the communication interface receives the data and controls the speed for receiving the data during the period of transition and a period of when the processor is in a boot-processing state.